

and Section 20 for the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska. The Santee Sioux wanted to acquire land for gaming in Iowa. In returning the application, the BIA noted that the Iowa governor opposed it, and that it would put a Nebraska tribe in direct competition with Iowa tribes who opposed the application.<sup>405</sup>

Early in Secretary Babbitt's tenure, in April 1993, the IGMS returned an Area Office's February 1993 recommendation to take land into trust under Section 465 and Section 20 for the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, approximately 150 miles from their reservation. IGMS said in rejecting the recommendation that there was insufficient evidence of consultation of state and local officials. The application was not resubmitted.

In January 1994, the IGMS returned to the Area Office its positive recommendation of Aug. 9, 1993, regarding the application of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa to take land into trust approximately 330 miles from its reservation. IGMS criticized the area office's "best interests" analysis under Section 20. The rejection memo also noted that the other six tribes in Michigan opposed the proposal. In mid-August 1994, after IGMS's review of evidence of new agreements between the tribe and its non-Indian partner, and evidence of support or neutrality by the other Michigan Indian tribes, the IGMS decided to take the land into trust for gaming. The Governor would not concur in DOI's finding, however, and the land was not taken into trust.

In addition, in September 1995 the IGMS returned the application of the Keweenaw Bay Indian community in Michigan to take land into trust and conduct gaming under Section 465 and

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<sup>405</sup>The Santee Sioux assigned their rights to the property to the Omaha tribe of Nebraska and resubmitted the application. The Area Office again recommended approval, noting the support of the nearby town and county. The application was pending at IGMS for five months before being withdrawn by the tribe.